

friends since first grade, Sydney and Megan are equals in all ways but one: When it comes to decibels, Megan's instrument trumps Sydney's.

"I don't like the music we play in class that much because I can't hear myself," said Sydney. "It's the CD and Megan. They drown me out."

Along with classmate Nick—who learned the rudiments of his saxophone over the summer—Megan and Sydney established themselves as the tone-setters (so to speak) of the seventh period.

RULE NO. 3

The third rule of sixth-grade boot camp stipulates that students must learn to assemble, disassemble and properly store the instrument in its carrying case before they blow a single note.

With Dorries preoccupied with Shaunice and her flute, Sydney stepped into the breach.

Turning to fellow clarinetist Kaelan, she reviewed the rudiments of clarinet assembly and disassembly she'd learned just weeks before.

"Mr. Dorries was helping Shaunice," she explained later. "And (Kaelan) was doing it wrong. I was afraid that Mr. Dorries would yell at him, so I helped out."

"Besides," she added with a smile, "I was bored."

Not for long.

BIG NEWS

In the first week of this month, Dorries cleared his throat and waited for the din to die down.

The acerbic band director smiled broadly, clearly reflecting his pleasure at the announcement: "We've decided to let the Beginning Band butcher the holiday concert."

"Jingle Bells," he added, "will be the piece sacrificed on the altar of music."

Dorries paused. There was more news. Three students in the class, he continued, would not be joining the beginning band.

The class shifted nervously, wondering who would be excluded and why.

"Sydney Everett, congratulations. Megan Ratcliff, congratulations. Nick Wiegand, congratulations," Dorries said. "I'm about to hand you three pieces of music. You'll continue to work from the red book in class here. These three other pieces are from the blue book. The three of you are in Intermediate Band."

The first thing Sydney noticed when she glanced at the music—"Jingle Bell Rock," "Joyeux Noel" and "Tequila"—were the chords.

Dorries picked up on her hesitation.

"I'm going to warn you, there are some notes in there you haven't learned yet," he said.

Sydney studied the music. "Can we write on the music?" she asked.

Dorries looked at her. In 6 weeks, he knew, Sydney would take her seat on a stage before friends, family, teachers and classmates. She would lift a mouthpiece between her teeth and play an instrument which, when the semester began, she knew existed but hardly understood.

"You surely can," Dorries told his student. "Just make sure you use pencil."

TRIBUTE TO KAYLEE MARIE RADZYMSKI

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 14, 2007

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge an outstanding young lady from

the Third Congressional District of Tennessee, Kaylee Marie Radzynski, of Cleveland, Tennessee. Kaylee is an incredibly special young lady with great ambitions and a strong sense of pride in her country and her military.

Kaylee joined the United States Naval Sea Cadet Corp in December 2002 and has befriended many of our men and women in uniform as she has traveled to our military bases and met with our soldiers first hand. In talking with some soldiers who had just returned from Iraq, she learned that among the things they missed while away from home was entertainment. So when Kaylee was 14 years old, she started an organization known today as Tunes 4 the Troops which consists of her collecting compact discs and DVDs and sending them to our soldiers who are defending our country.

As of last week, Kaylee has sent over 25,000 CDs and DVDs with a value of over \$375,000.00. Kaylee has raised over \$19,000 in cash, goods, and services. The Tennessee Titans NFL team sent her \$4,000 and Outback Steak House provided her with 300 free meals recently for a fundraiser where she raised over \$5,000. The money pays for cases, printing, and shipping costs. So many others are pitching in now . . . a box manufacturer in Ohio donates all the boxes and tape; David Smith, owner of Dick's Graphics in Cleveland, Tennessee, does all the printing at cost; Cleveland News Now.net, a media group in Cleveland, has given Kaylee office space with all utilities and Internet access as well as a computer to use there for 2 years; Cleveland High School, her sponsor in this endeavor, has given Kaylee a checking account at school to facilitate the bookkeeping.

Kaylee has set up drop-off locations all over Bradley County including the Armed Forces Recruiting Offices, Award Realty, Bradley County Courthouse, Circuit Court Clerk's Office, Cleveland City Mayor Tom Rowland's Office, Cleveland High School, Dick's Graphics, Bradley County Justice Center, and Southern Heritage Bank. As of this March, Kaylee has set up 27 other locations across the country to collect more CDs and DVDs for Tunes 4 the Troops with over 20 more boxes scheduled for delivery in combat zones this month.

Madam Speaker, 15-year-old Kaylee Radzynski understands that she is the future of America and that she can look forward to her future because of the sacrifices made for her and all Americans. I'm so proud to represent Kaylee who is using her voice to say "thank you" to all those serving in the Armed Forces of the United States of America!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 14, 2007

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I regret that due to an illness, I missed recorded votes on March 12, 2007 and March 13, 2007.

Had I been present on those days, I would have voted in support of H.R. 85, H. Res. 136, H. Res. 89, H. Res. 64, H. Res. 228, and H. Res. 222.

SUPPORT FOR 2007 SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS BILL

HON. NANCY E. BOYDA

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 14, 2007

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the upcoming 2007 fiscal year supplemental appropriations bill.

Much of the debate on this bill has focused, quite rightly, on the provisions that codify President Bush's benchmarks for Iraq into law. This is an important subject that I plan to discuss in depth later this week.

But today I wish to spotlight another element of this legislation, one that offers renewed hope and opportunity to millions of children in Kansas and throughout the United States: the extension of the State Children's Health Insurance Program, or SCHIP.

If you are fortunate enough to have health coverage, you might not realize what peace of mind insurance brings. You don't worry that your child will wake up with an ear infection that will cost a month's rent. You need not fear that the price of a broken leg will force you to default on your auto loan, or that the injuries from a car crash will obliterate a year's salary.

But for many Americans, these fears are a fact of daily life. Forty-seven million of our fellow citizens—47 million of our brothers and sisters and our sons and daughters, 47 million of our coworkers and colleagues and our friends and neighbors—47 million of us lack health insurance.

Worst of all, among those 47 million uninsured Americans are nine million children.

This is not just an economic or an institutional challenge. It is the moral crisis of our age.

The Federal Government has addressed this simmering emergency through two primary means. The first is decades-old and well-known: Medicaid. Medicaid is a good and vital program, but its scope is very limited. In some states, if your family earns one dollar less than the poverty line, you will receive full Medicaid coverage—but if you earn just a few dollars more, you're ineligible for any assistance whatsoever.

A sane health care policy must recognize that families earning 125% or 150% or even 200% of the poverty line need a helping hand. And that's where the State Children's Health Insurance Program, or SCHIP, enters the scene. SCHIP introduces badly needed flexibility into the Federal health care system. In short, it tells the states, "If you want to expand the eligibility of low-income children and families for government-sponsored health insurance, we'll offer matching funds to help you do it."

In the decade since its inception, SCHIP has proven itself an outstanding success. It has enrolled six million beneficiaries, dramatically reducing the number of uninsured children in our nation.

Later in this legislative session, Congress will consider extending SCHIP beyond 2007, and you'd better believe I'll fight every step of the way for its renewal. But for now our task is simpler. Due to poor planning and inadequate funding from the do-nothing 109th Congress, 14 states are running out of money to finance SCHIP through the current fiscal

year. They need Congress to act immediately to ensure funding.

I urge my colleagues to show our compassion for America's children, to demonstrate that we will not tolerate the scourge of uninsurance. I urge you to vote to extend funding for SCHIP.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY WALBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 14, 2007

Mr. WALBERG. Madam Speaker, I would like to submit to the record that my vote on H. Res. 228, Recognizing the 186th anniversary of the independence of Greece and celebrating Greek and American Democracy, was not recorded yesterday. May the record show that I would have voted "yea" on H. Res. 228.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT OF THE HOUSE FOR THE GOOD FRIDAY AGREEMENT

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2007

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 222, the Good Friday Agreement for Northern Ireland.

The United States stands committed to a peaceful resolution of the conflict which has plagued Northern Ireland for the past quarter century. The last twelve months have indeed seen historic developments which have raised hopes that at long last the parties to the conflict in Northern Ireland are working together to forge reconciliation.

Today, I strongly support H. Res. 222, to show strong support for the 1998 Good Friday Agreement as the blueprint for a lasting peace in Northern Ireland. The measure continues to support the St. Andrews Agreement of October 2006 and commends British Prime Minister Tony Blair and Irish Taoiseach Bertie Ahern for their leadership and persistence in seeking a peaceful resolution in Northern Ireland.

Mr. Speaker, we must continue to advocate for the achievement of peace, justice, human rights and political stability in Northern Ireland. That is why I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 222.

RECOGNIZING A TRADITION OF LEADERSHIP IN THE GUAM COMMUNITY

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 14, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the late Jesus S. Leon Guerrero's legacy of leadership that was carried on with distinction by his son, the late Anthony A. Leon Guerrero, and that now continues with his daughter, Ms. Lourdes A. Leon

Guerrero, who follows her father and her brother as President, Chief Executive Officer, and Chairman of the Board of the Bank of Guam. Ms. Leon Guerrero has served in this capacity since March 31, 2006, and though her service at the helm of the Bank of Guam has been brief, she carries forward the visionary and dedicated leadership and work ethic which have been the hallmarks of the Bank of Guam since its establishment 35 years ago. These hallmarks have consistently characterized the leaders and the employees of the Bank of Guam since its chartering on March 13, 1972 and have given rise to the Bank's reputation as one of the leading and most successful financial institutions in the Pacific. Last year, the Bank was named by the Guam Chamber of Commerce as Business Laureate of the Year and was enrolled into the Guam Business Hall of Fame. Today, the leadership of the late Mr. Jesus S. Leon Guerrero and the Bank of Guam's service to our community continues to be celebrated and recognized by the people of Guam.

After working for the Bank of America for many years, Jesus struck out on his own in 1972 to charter a new and locally-organized bank for our island community—an endeavor that seemed nearly impossible at the time. But Jesus never gave up and his confidence in the future of Guam and in the people of our island never wavered. It was his vision, his drive, and his confidence that led to the chartering of a community bank for the people of Guam.

Upon Jesus's death in 2002, his son Anthony took the reins of leadership at the Bank of Guam. During that same year, Guam was hit by Typhoon Chata'an in July, a powerful earthquake in October, and Supertyphoon Pongsona in December. Still grieving, Anthony rose to the occasion and proved himself a worthy successor of his father. Anthony met and conquered every challenge except one: he lost his battle against cancer in 2004. Jesus's daughter Lourdes was called to assume the mantle of leadership of the Bank. A leader in her own right, as a Senator in the Guam Legislature for several terms, Lourdes did not hesitate and the transfer of the Bank's leadership was seamless and unfaltering.

The Bank of Guam has grown over the past 35 years in meeting the banking, financing, and insurance needs of the people of Guam and the greater Micronesia region. Today, the Bank of Guam, a publicly-traded company, has a presence on nearly every island in the region and in San Francisco, California. Such is the legacy of Jesus S. and Anthony A. Leon Guerrero and the challenge for Lourdes A. Leon Guerrero, the officers and employees of the Bank of Guam. We are confident that the leadership and the employees of the Bank of Guam will continue to meet these challenges.

TRIBUTE TO NEGRO BASEBALL LEAGUE

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 14, 2007

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise to express my profound respect and admiration to all the members of the Negro Baseball League. These athletes contributed greatly to the sport of baseball and to

our nation. African American baseball players were an important part of breaking down barriers, reducing prejudice, and moving the country towards integration, fairness, and equality. And because of their talent and determination, Major League Baseball finally integrated in 1959, 40 years after the formation of the Negro Baseball League.

While the 4th District was never home to an official Negro baseball team designated by the Negro League, which began in 1920, it was home to the St. Paul Gophers. The team was formed in 1907, long before the official Negro League was created, and with the likes of Bobby Marshall, a stand-out at the University of Minnesota in three sports, they went on to win the unofficial championship in 1909 against the Chicago Leland Giants. Minnesota was also home to Minneapolis Keystones, an all-black men's team that also played in the early 1900's and, in 1944, the Minneapolis Millerettes, a member of All-American Girls Baseball League. Even though these teams played for only a short time, they remain an important part of the history of our state and a testament to the value of inclusion in our communities.

I am proud to support for H. Res. 162 and to recognize the enormous achievements by African American athletes throughout our Nation's history.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY THE NURSING PROFESSION

HON. DAVID LOEBSACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 14, 2007

Mr. LOEBSACK. Madam Speaker, I call attention to the important and essential role that nurses play in providing quality health care across our Nation. Nurses are the health professionals involved on the front lines of caring for Americans. Our Nation's health care system is complex and every day people with all types of needs are served by legions of caring, qualified and professional nurses. They are integral to our Nation's health care delivery system.

I believe every person can remember an experience when someone they loved needed health care and a nurse was the first person by their side providing care and comfort. We all know someone who works in the field of nursing and the commitment they make to their profession, despite extraordinary challenges everyday.

The Nurse in Washington Internship program has brought more than 100 representatives of this noble field to our Nation's Capitol this week to give voice to their needs and experience. They see more of our constituents and care for more of our children then we will ever meet and we should listen and respect their views.

An adequate supply of nurses is essential to ensuring that all people receive quality care and that our Nation's public health infrastructure has the professionals necessary to respond to natural and manmade disasters. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) projects that today's 10 percent vacancy rate in registered nurses will grow to 36 percent by 2020, representing more than one million unfilled jobs.